

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS REPORT

September 1, 2006 Crop Prospects
State Rankings: Harvested acres, 2005
State Rankings: Crop Production, 2005
Cash Receipts from Sales, 2005

Louisiana Crop Prospects

Louisiana's 2006 cotton crop is expected to yield 890 pounds per acre, the second highest yield on record for the state. Although the early season got off to a slow start, the hot, dry weather has allowed farmers to get ahead of the normal harvesting schedule for most crops.

Louisiana's **cotton** production is expected to total 1.15 million bales, down 4 percent from last month but up 5 percent from 2005. Acreage of cotton expected for harvest was revised to 620,000 acres, down 30,000 acres from the June 1 estimate. The expected yield per acre, at 890 pounds, is up 4 pounds from last month and up 12 pounds from 2005. If realized, this will be the second largest yield in the state's history.

The Louisiana **sugarcane** crop is estimated at 10.44 million net tons, down 2 percent from the previous month but slightly above last year. Yield is forecast at 24 net tons per acre, unchanged from the August 1 estimate but up 1.1 net tons from 2005. Estimated production is down from last month as harvested acreage for sugar and seed was revised from 445,000 acres to 435,000 acres.

Louisiana **rice** production is forecast at 19.8 million cwt, down 4 percent from the August 1 estimate and down 36 percent from 2005. Rice harvested acreage was revised to 345,000 acres, down 10,000 acres from the June 1 estimate. This will be the lowest harvested acres since 1914 when 320,000 acres were harvested. Yield per acre is forecast at 5,750 pounds, down 100 pounds from last month and 150 pounds below last year's record yield.

Soybean production is expected to total 24.96 million bushels in Louisiana, down 3 percent from the August 1 estimate and down 14 percent from a year ago. An estimated 780,000 acres will be harvested, down 8 percent from 2005. Yield is forecast at 32 bushels per acre, down 1 bushel from last month and down 2 bushels from last year.

Louisiana's **corn** production is forecast at 37.99 million bushels, up 1 percent from last month, but down 15 percent from 2005. An estimated 290,000 acres will be harvested for grain, a 12 percent drop from a year ago. Yield per acre, at 131 bushels, is up 1 bushel from last month but down 5 bushels from a year ago.

Sorghum production is estimated at 7.49 million bushels in the state, compared to 8.71 million bushels last year. Acreage to be harvested for grain is forecast at 78,000 acres, 10,000 acres fewer than last year's 88,000 acres. Yield is forecast at 96 bushels per acre, unchanged from the previous month but down 3 bushels from 2005.

United States Crop Prospects

All cotton production is forecast at 20.3 million 480-pound bales, down slightly from last month and down 15 percent from last year's record high production. Yield is expected to average 762 pounds per acre, down 3 pounds from last month and down 69 pounds from last year. The September harvested area is expected to total 12.8 million acres, virtually unchanged from last month but down 7 percent from last year. Lower production forecasts from last month in the southeast and California were partially offset by higher production in the southwest and Texas. **Upland cotton** production is forecast at 19.5 million 480-pound bales, down 16 percent from 2005.

Sugarcane production for sugar and seed in 2006 is forecast at 28.4 million tons, 1 percent above the August forecast and 7 percent above 2005. Sugarcane growers intend to harvest 910,800 acres for sugar and seed during the 2006 crop year, down 1 percent from both the August forecast and last year. Yield is forecast at 31.2 tons per acre, 0.6 ton above the previous forecast and 2.4 tons above the 2005 yield. Due to an increase in yield over last year's hurricane-damaged crop, Louisiana's production is up slightly, despite a 20,000-acre reduction in harvested area. Both acreage and yield are expected to increase in Florida, where hurricanes also took their toll last year, for a 13-percent increase in production.

Rice production is forecast at 193 million cwt, down 2 percent from the August forecast and down 13 percent from last year. Based on administrative data, planted area was revised to 2.84 million acres, down 2 percent from the June estimate and down 16 percent from 2005. Area for harvest is expected to total 2.82 million acres, down 2 percent from last month and down 16 percent from 2005. As of September 1, the U.S. yield is forecast at 6,846 pounds per acre, up 33 pounds per acre from last month and up 210 pounds from last year. Record high yields are expected in Missouri and Texas.

Soybean production is forecast at 3.09 billion bushels, up 6 percent from the August forecast and up slightly from the 2005 crop. If realized, this would be the second highest production on record. Based on September 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 41.8 bushels per acre, up 2.2 bushels from August but down 1.5 bushels from last year's record high yield.

Compared with last month, yields are forecast higher across the Corn Belt and most of the northern and central Great Plains. Near or above normal moisture in those areas during August improved crop conditions. In contrast, yields are down or unchanged from the August 1 forecast across the Gulf Coast states and Atlantic Coast states, with the exception of South Carolina.

Corn production is forecast at 11.1 billion bushels, up 1 percent from last month and fractionally above 2005. Based on conditions as of September 1, yields are expected to average 154.7 bushels per acre, up 2.5 bushels from August and up 6.8 bushels from last year. If realized, yield and production would be the second largest on record, behind 2004. Forecast yields are higher than August across the northern Great Plains and western Corn Belt as moderate to heavy precipitation during the month improved soil moisture levels and crop conditions. Expected yields across the eastern Corn Belt are unchanged

from last month. Farmers expect to harvest 71.8 million acres of corn for grain, down 250,000 acres from August and down 4 percent from 2005.

Sorghum production is forecast at 305 million bushels, 3 percent above last month but down 23 percent from last year. If realized, this would be the lowest production since 1956. Based on September 1 conditions, the sorghum yield forecast is 57.3 bushels per acre, up 1.5 bushels from August but down 11.4 bushels from last year. The yield in Kansas, the largest producing state, is expected to be 60.0 bushels, up 3.0 bushels from last month but down 15.0 bushels from 2005. Texas, the second largest sorghum producing state, expects a yield of 48.0 bushels per acre, unchanged from last month but down 12.0 bushels from last year. Area for harvest as grain is forecast at 5.32 million acres, unchanged from August but 7 percent below last year.

CROP REPORT – LOUISIANA September 1, 2006

CROP	ACRES EXPECTED FOR HARVEST (000)		FORECAST YIELD PER ACRE		UNIT	FORECAST PRODUCTION (000)	
	2005	2006	2005	2006		2005	2006
Corn for grain	330	290	136	131	bushels	44,880	37,990
Upland Cotton	600	620	878	890	lbs: bales	1,098	1,150
Rice	525	345	5,900	5,750	lbs: cwt	30,983	19,838
Sorghum for grain	88	78	99	96	bushels	8,712	7,488
Soybeans	850	780	34	32	bushels	28,900	24,960
Sugarcane (sugar & seed)	455	435	22.9	24.0	net tons	10,420	10,440
Hay, all ¹	350	350	2.3	2.5	tons	805	875

CROP REPORT - UNITED STATES September 1, 2006

CROP	ACRES EXPECTED FOR HARVEST (000)		FORECAST YIELD PER ACRE		UNIT	FORECAST PRODUCTION (000)	
	2005	2006	2005	2006		2005	2006
Corn for grain	75,107	71,841	147.9	154.7	bushels	11,112,072	11,113,766
Upland Cotton	13,534	12,492	825	750	lbs: bales	23,259.7	19,520.0
Rice	3,364	2,823	6,636	6,846	lbs: cwt	223,235	193,253
Sorghum for grain	5,736	5,317	68.7	57.3	bushels	393,893	304,635
Soybeans	71,361	73,935	43.3	41.8	bushels	3,086,432	3,092,970
Sugarcane (sugar & seed)	922.6	910.8	28.8	31.2	net tons	26,604	28,419
Hay, all ¹	61,649	62,697	2.44	2.27	tons	150,590	142,326

¹Estimates carried forward from an earlier forecast.

**State Rankings - Harvested Acres, Selected Crops:
Louisiana and 10 Leading States, 2005**

Item	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	LA Rank
Corn for Grain	IA	IL	NE	MN	IN	SD	KS	OH	MO	WI	23
Upland Cotton	TX	GA	MS	AR	NC	TN	LA	AL	MO	CA	7
All Rice	AR	CA	LA	MS	MO	TX					3
Sorghum for Grain	KS	TX	NE	OK	MO	CO	NM	LA	SD	IL	8
Soybeans	IA	IL	MN	IN	MO	NE	OH	SD	AR	ND	18
Sugarcane	LA	FL	TX	HI							1
Sweet Potatoes	NC	LA	MS	CA	TX	AL	NJ	SC	VA		2
All Wheat	KS	ND	MT	OK	SD	TX	WA	CO	NE	MN	32
Total Acres of Principal Crops Harvested¹	IA	IL	KS	ND	MN	TX	NE	SD	MO	IN	26

¹ Crops included are corn, sorghum, oats, barley, winter wheat, rye, durum wheat, other spring wheat, rice, soybeans, peanuts, sunflowers, cotton, dry edible beans, potatoes, canola, proso millet and sugarbeets. Harvested acreage is used for all hay, tobacco and sugarcane in computing total area planted. Includes double cropped acres and unharvested small grains planted as cover crops.

**State Rankings - Crop Production, Selected Crops:
Louisiana and 10 Leading States, 2005**

Item	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	LA Rank
Corn for Grain	IA	IL	NE	MN	IN	SD	KS	OH	WI	MO	22
Upland Cotton	TX	AR	MS	GA	CA	NC	TN	LA	MO	AL	8
All Rice	AR	CA	LA	MS	MO	TX					3
Sorghum for Grain	KS	TX	NE	OK	MO	LA	IL	AR	SD	NM	6
Soybeans for Beans	IA	IL	MN	IN	NE	OH	MO	SD	ND	KS	18
Sugarcane	FL	LA	HI	TX							2
Sweet Potatoes	NC	CA	MS	LA	AL	TX	NJ	SC	VA		4
All Wheat	KS	ND	MT	WA	SD	OK	ID	TX	MN	NE	33

Cash Receipts From Sales: Louisiana, 2005

Rank	Commodity	Cash Receipts Dollars	Percent of Total
1	Poultry/Eggs	495,699,000	23.3
2	Sugarcane	279,995,000	13.2
3	Cattle & Calves	235,763,000	11.1
4	Cotton	231,507,000	10.9
5	Rice	207,257,000	9.8
6	Soybeans	175,653,000	8.3
7	Corn	86,889,000	4.1
8	Dairy Products	66,411,000	3.1
9	Aquaculture	55,536,000	2.6
10	Sweet Potatoes	44,387,000	2.1
	All Other Commodities	245,601,000	11.6
	Total Cash Receipts	2,124,698,000	

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